MAR 1 0 2005 CTRADE THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Confirmation No.: 6968

Li et al.

Art Unit: 1642

Appl. No. 09/720,086

Examiner: Harris, A. M.

102(e): July 23, 2001

Atty.Docket:0609.4560002/JAG/KRM/DJN

For:

De Novo DNA Cytosine Methyltransferase Genes,

Polypeptides and Uses Thereof

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 (Which Accompanies an RCE Under C.F.R. § 1.114)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the Notice of Appeal filed August 10, 2004, and in reply to the final Office Action dated March 10, 2004, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
  - in ascending order;
  - with status identifiers; and
  - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is being filed concurrently herewith. Accordingly, under 37 C.F.F. § 1.114(d), the finality of the March 10, 2004 Office Action should be withdrawn, and the present Response entered and considered.